(b) No dams/reservoirs is pending for construction due to inter-State disputes in the basins of Ganga and Yamuna.

(c) Does not arise.

PAP Agreement for Sharing Water

566. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) when did the Parambikulam Aliyar Project Agreement come into existence for sharing water between Kerala and Tamil Nadu;

(b) what is the annual water share due to Kerala and whether violation of PAP pact by Tamil Nadu has been brought to the notice of Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that Tamil Nadu Government is not allocating actual water share to Kerala and is diverting the allocated share in between Manakkadavu Weir and Moolathara;

(d) whether Government of Kerala arrived at an agreement to share 2.5 tms. water from Anamalayar by compromising the interest of Kerala; and

(e) whether Government propose to review the PAP agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Parambikulam Aliyar Project agreement came into force with effect from 9th November, 1958.

(b) and (c) As per the Parambikulum Aliyar Project agreement Kerala's annual utilization of water is 19.55 thousand million cubic feet (TMC ft.). The Government of Tamil Nadu has reported that it has not violated any of the agreement provisions. Tamil Nadu is ensuring Kerala its annual utilization of 12.3 TMC ft. at Kerala Sholayar and 7.25 TMC ft. at Manacadavu weir in normal monsoon years. Further, it has also reported that Tamil Nadu is not diverting water between Manakkadavu Weir and Moolathara Regulator.

(d) and (e) The diversion of 2.5 TMC water from Anamalaiyar to Prambikulam Aliyar Project (PAP) is very much an integral part of PAP agreement. The Government of Tamil Nadu has informed that Government of Tamil Nadu and Government of Kerala have taken the initiative to review the agreement.

Contamination of water sources

567. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether West Bengal is worst hit by arsenic and flouride contamination of drinking water sources;

(b) the measures taken by Government to assist the State Government to solve this problem; and

(c) the fund allocated or proposed to be allocated for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Out of 341 Nos. of blocks in 18 districts in the State of West Bengal, 79 blocks in 8 districts and 45 blocks in 9 districts are affected by the problem of arsenic and fluoride contamination in ground water respectively.

(b) and (c) Rural drinking water is a State subject. Government of India extends financial and technical assistance to States for supply of safe drinking water in rural areas through a Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Funds amounting to Rs. 63.95 crore have been released to West Bengal Government so far during the current year under ARWSP. 15% of ARWSP funds have been exclusively earmarked for Sub Mission project for tackling water quality problems. With effect from 01.04.1998, the power to sanction Sub Mission projects have been delegated to States. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources has also constructed 65 exploratory tubewells in four arsenic affected districts to delineate arsenic free aquifer zones. Successful wells have been handed over to State Government for use. Assistance of Rs. 12.02 lakhs for artificial recharge scheme and Rs. 21.00 lakhs in connection with R & D scheme has been provided by CGWB/Ministry of Water Resources. One mobile laboratory van with inbuilt equipment for instant analysis of arsenic rich ground water has also been made available to the State.

Division of Water Resources between India and Bangladesh

568. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently an Indian delegation had visited Bangladesh and held talks with Bangladesh authorities about division of water resources between the two countries;